

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Donald J. Briggs  
Serial Number: 10/791,517 Art Unit: 3634  
Filed: March 2, 2004 Examiner: H. Thompson  
For: Magnetic Top For Ladders and Method of Construction Thereof

## In the claims

A statement of the status of claims follows:

1. (currently amended) A ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] comprising:
  - a) a formed ~~top~~ head piece having a flat top, having an underside, and at least one side, extending downward from said flat top; and
  - b) a pair of support members, being oppositely disposed, each of said pair of support members having a top end, the top end of each of said pair of support members being pivotably attached to said formed head piece; and
  - c) at least one magnetic strip, fixedly attached to said formed ~~[[top]]~~ headpiece.
2. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is formed of a thin sheet.
3. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is formed of:
  - a) a quantity of magnetic powder; and
  - b) a means for encapsulating said magnetic powder into said formed ~~[[top]]~~ headpiece.
4. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to said formed ~~[[top]]~~ headpiece by means of an adhesive.

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5. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to said formed ~~[[top]]~~ headpiece by means of encapsulating the at least one magnetic strip in a resinous material.

6. ((currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to the underside of said flat top of said formed head piece.

7. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the at least one magnetic strip is fixedly attached to the at least one side.

8. (currently amended) A ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] comprising:

a) a generally rectangular ~~top~~ headpiece, having an underside;

b) four sides, attached to said generally rectangular ~~top~~ head piece and extending vertically downward therefrom, forming a box having an open bottom; and

c) a pair of support members, being oppositely disposed, each of said pair of support members having a top end, the top end of each of said pair of support members being pivotably attached to said generally rectangular head piece; and

d) at least one magnetic strip, fixedly attached to the underside of said generally rectangular ~~top~~ headpiece.

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9. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 8 further comprising a second magnetic strip, fixedly attached to the underside of said generally rectangular ~~top~~ head piece.

10. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 8 further comprising a plurality of magnetic strips, one of said plurality of magnetic strips being fixedly attached to each of said four sides of said box ~~magnetic top for ladders~~.

11. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 10 wherein the magnetic strips are formed of a thin, flexible sheet.

12. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 10 wherein the magnetic strips are formed of:

- a) a quantity of magnetic powder; and
- b) a means for encapsulating said magnetic powder into said generally

rectangular ~~top~~ head piece.

13. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 1 wherein the magnetic strips are fixedly attached to said generally rectangular ~~top~~ head piece by means of an adhesive.

14. (currently amended) The ~~magnetic top for ladder~~[[s]] of claim 10 wherein the magnetic strips are fixedly attached to said generally rectangular ~~top~~ head piece by means of encapsulating the magnetic strips in a resinous material.

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15. (currently amended) A method of forming a magnetic top, for ladders having a head member and a pair of supports, pivotably attached to said head member, and further wherein said head member forms in a mold having a plurality of formed channels therein, comprising the steps of:

a) pouring a quantity of magnetic powder into each of said plurality of formed channels; and

b) filling the mold with a quantity of moldable material to encapsulate the quantity of magnetic powder.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

a) before pouring a quantity of magnetic powder into each of said plurality of formed channels, coating the mold with a quantity of molded material, such that said quantity of magnetic powder is placed between two layers of molded material after step b is completed.

17. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the moldable material is selected from the group of: plastic, fiberglass, or resin.

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